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JUL 15 2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:)
)
Trautman, et al.)
)
FOR: **APPARATUS AND METHOD**)
 FOR PIERCING SKIN WITH)
 MICROPROTRUSIONS)
)
SERIAL NO: **09/976,798**)
)
FILED: **October 12, 2001**)
)
ART UNIT NO: **3763**)
)
EXAMINER: **Thompson, Kathryn L.**)
)
DOCKET NO: **ARC 3043 R1**)

AMENDMENT A

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are made in response to the Office communication, dated February 17, 2004. Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.